Did you know that from 1 November 2013, the full Cat Act 2011 takes effect and will require all cats that have reached 6 months of age to be:

- Microchipped;
- Sterilised; and
- Registered with the relevant local government.

Cats will be required to wear a collar and registration tag to ensure that owned cats can be easily identified and returned to their owner.

For all the facts and up to date information please visit:

DID YOU KNOW?

Winter Edition, Volume 1—Hello & Welcome
Hello and Welcome to the Shire of Kalamunda’s first edition of our Community Safety and Crime Prevention newsletter.

This newsletter aims to keep you up to date with recent activity and information for your area including useful community safety and crime prevention tips and advice. We hope the information is useful and interesting to you.

As part of the Shire of Kalamunda's commitment to the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Plan the Shire has recently appointed a Community Safety and Crime Prevention Officer, Louise Naylor (picture inset).

The focus of the role will largely be based around education and raising awareness of community safety and crime prevention in the community with an emphasis on early intervention to help keep the Shire of Kalamunda a safe place to live, work and visit.

Louise Naylor
Community Safety & Crime Prevention Officer

Want to know more? If you would like to contact Louise, want to know about community safety and crime prevention or you have any further suggestions for topics to include in our newsletter, please contact Louise on;

Tel: 9257 9867
Email: louise.naylor@kalamunda.wa.gov.au

or visit the website
Ribbons a reminder to be safe on the roads this festive season......

With the festive season approaching, the Shire of Kalamunda is joining forces with WALGA’s RoadWise Program to take part in the White Ribbons™ for Road Safety campaign. The campaign reminds everyone about their responsibility for ensuring the roads are safe over the busy holiday season.

The long term vision for road safety in WA is that no-one is killed or seriously injured from road crashes. To achieve this vision requires a shared responsibility where we all have a role to play.

Here are just a few tips on how you can keep you and your vehicle safe on our roads.

**Keep your vehicle in good condition** and check it has key safety features - The condition of your vehicle contributes to a safe driving experience

**Stick to the speed limit** – creeping over that speed limit won’t save you time but will cost lives

**Always wear a seatbelt** – many accidents happen on those small trips close to home so buckle up even on the short journeys.

**Don’t drink and drive** – elect a skipper, stay over, grab a taxi or take public transport if you plan to have a drink.

**Don’t drive tired** – pull over and take a break every two hours, swap drivers, have a walk around or have a 20 minute nap.

White Ribbons™ for Road Safety campaign will run from 17 November 2013 through until 6 January 2014.

**Ewatch - be in the know**

ewatch is an email based system that keeps you connected to your local police and council so that you can help to track down crime and be proactive in making your community safer. Join ewatch to receive regular email updates on local crime trends and statistics, safety initiatives, emerging issues and community building events. Working together as a community helps to make your neighbourhood safe, secure and vibrant for all who share it. To join ewatch please visit the website [http://ewatch.com.au/](http://ewatch.com.au/)

The Shire of Kalamunda has recently signed up to ewatch; a free service provided through WA Police and Neighbourhood Watch.
We all know that this time of year can be busy; the kids have broken up from school, Christmas is just around the corner and family holiday plans are in full swing. With such a busy schedule it is easy to forget the importance of keeping your home secure. It is also a time when the house is full of valuable items such as gifts, food and wine. Because of this, Christmas traditionally sees a sharp increase in domestic burglary, with criminals targeting homes when they are at their most vulnerable.

"The festive season is traditionally a time for people to relax, take a break and enjoy themselves"

"Unfortunately, that is not the case for some criminals who see the holiday season as an opportunity. We need to do all we can to make things as hard as possible for thieves and burglars."

Here are some simple and practical tips to make your home safer and more secure.

**Don't Tempt a Thief:**
Make your home look occupied. Lock all outside doors and windows before you leave the house or go to bed. Even if it is for a short time

Leave lights on when you go out. If you are going to be away for a length of time over the holidays, connect some lamps to automatic timers to turn them on in the evening and off during the day. Don't allow daily deliveries of mail, newspapers or flyers to build up while you are away. Arrange for a friend or neighbour to take them regularly.

Move any valuables out of view. Get to know your neighbor; exchange telephone numbers and keep and eye on each other's homes. Observant neighbours can reduce prowling, loitering and burglary by reporting suspicious people or vehicles to police.

**Targeting the Outside:**
Invest in a motion-sensor light for backyards. Trim trees and shrubs so that they cannot be used as hiding places for intruders. Lawn mowers, barbecues and bicycles are best stored out of sight. Always lock your garden sheds and garages.

Use curtains on garage and basement windows. Never leave notes on your door such as “Gone shopping.”

**Alarms:**
**If you have a home alarm system, use it!**
*Activate your alarm system — Alarm systems are only useful when you remember to activate them.*

Many individuals have alarm systems but do not arm them because it is inconvenient. Many burglars know this and will not be deterred by a window sticker or sign indicating that the home has an alarm system.

On the back of this newsletter we have included a Holiday Security Checklist. Please take a minute to see how secure your home is this holiday season!!
**Holiday Security Checklist: Yes or No**

Answer the questions below about the security of your home. With every ‘yes’ you tick your home becomes more burglar proof. Have you:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Locked all external windows and doors?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Given a spare key to a friend or family to check on your home?</td>
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<td>Locked all tools away?</td>
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<td>Cancelled deliveries such as newspapers?</td>
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<td>Had the mail held, redirected or arranged collection with your key holder?</td>
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<td>Disconnected power supply to electric garage doors?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Locked all valuables in a safe or bank safety deposit box?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turned down the ring volume on your telephone?</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Set light timers and sensors to come on during the night?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arranged for someone to cut the lawn and water the gardens?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Arranged for care of pets?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Arranged for payment of utility bills?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advised your monitoring centre of your contact person or key holder if your house has a monitored alarm?</td>
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**REPORT IT!!**

The safety of your community relies on the help and information you provide to the Police and other agencies working within the Shire. By taking positive action and reporting crimes or suspicious behaviour you can help identify criminals, reduce damage and help solve crimes, overall keeping your community safer. You can report suspicious or criminal behaviour to:

**Police Assistance—131 444**

Report all suspicious behaviour and incidents. They will respond to all incidents that require Police attendance, times may vary depending on priority of offences at the time of reporting.

**Emergency (police, Fire Ambulance) - 000**

Only call 000 in an emergency or life threatening situation when urgent Police assistance is needed.

**Crime Stoppers—1800 333 000 or visit https://wa.crimestoppers.com.au**

You can report information about criminal activity anonymously.

**Reporting Graffiti—1800 44 22 55 or visit https://goodbye-graffiti.wa.gov.au**

The Shire of Kalamunda works closely with local Police to ensure a coordinated approach to identifying and prosecuting graffiti vandals. All incidents are photographed, recorded and provided to the Police as evidence.